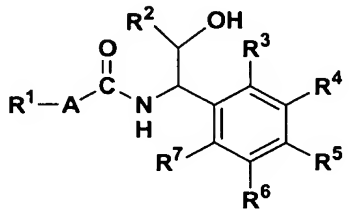
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



I

wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl, furanyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy and nitro;

A is –CH=CH- or $-(CH_2)_n-$;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxymethyl;

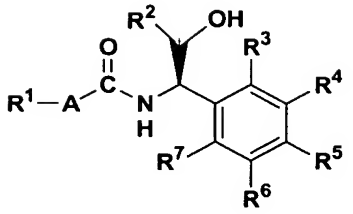
n is an integer of 0, 1 or 2;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, trifluoromethoxy and optionally substituted morpholin-4-yl, morpholin-4-ylmethyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, piperazinyl, and pyrazinyl with one or two substituents in which said substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, aminomethyl, hydroxymethyl, chloro or fluoro;

R^5 is hydrogen or fluoro; or R^4 and R^5 taken together is –CH=CH-CH=CH- optionally substituted with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy; and

R^3, R^6, and R^7 are each independently hydrogen or fluoro.

2. The compound of claim 1 having the Formula Ia or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



Ia

wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl, furanyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy and nitro;

A is –CH=CH- or $-(CH_2)_n-$;

R^2 is hydrogen;

n is an integer of 0, 1 or 2;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, trifluoromethoxy and optionally substituted morpholin-4-yl, morpholin-4-ylmethyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, piperazinyl, and pyrazinyl with one or two substituents in which said substituent is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, aminomethyl, hydroxymethyl, chloro or fluoro;

R^5 is hydrogen or fluoro; or R^4 and R^5 taken together is –CH=CH-CH=CH- optionally substituted with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy; and

R^3, R^6, and R^7 are each independently hydrogen or fluoro.

3. The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

(*R*)- N-[2-hydroxy-1-(3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-phenyl-propionamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- N-[1-(4-fluoro-3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-ethyl]-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- N-[1-(4-fluoro-3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-ethyl]-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- N-[1-(4-fluoro-3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-ethyl]-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[1-(4-fluoro-3-morpholin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-acrylamide;

(R)-4-fluoro-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-benzamide;

(R)-2,3-difluoro-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-benzamide;

(R)-2,4-difluoro-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-benzamide;

(R)-3,4-difluoro-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-benzamide;

(R)-2-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-acetamide;

(R)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-propionamide;

(R)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-propionamide;

(R)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-propionamide;

(R)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-hydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-ethyl)-propionamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(7-methoxy-naphthalen-2-yl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(7-methoxy-naphthalen-2-yl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(7-methoxy-naphthalen-2-yl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(*R*)- 3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-[2-hydroxy-1-(7-methoxy-naphthalen-2-yl)-ethyl]-acrylamide;

(1*R*,2*S*)- N-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-propyl)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;

(1*R*,2*S*)- 3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-propyl)-acrylamide;

(1*R*,2*S*)- 3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-propyl)-acrylamide; and

(1*R*,2*S*)- 3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2,3-dihydroxy-1-naphthalen-2-yl-propyl)-acrylamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of KCNQ potassium channels comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or diluent.

5. A method for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of the KCNQ potassium channels in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

6. The method of claims 5 wherein said disorders are acute and chronic pain, migraine, neuropathic pain, bipolar disorders, convulsions, mania, epilepsy, anxiety, depression and neurodegenerative disorders.

7 The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is migraine.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is neuropathic pain.